Royalty on soft drinks

1737. SHRI RAM AWADHESH SINGH: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question 724 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 14th May, 1990 and state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Limca soft drink which has its orgin in Italy was banned there; if so, what are the reasons for which its manufacture was permitted in India; and

(b) what is the annual royalty paid for Limca and other aerated drinks since its inception and whether this is in foreign exchange and if so, what is the mode of payment?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI SHARAD YADAV): (a) and (b) The requisite information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Trade with Neighbouring Countries

1738. SHRI KAPIL VERMA
SHRIMATI VEENA VERMA.
KUMARI ALIA.

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) what is the quantum of India's trade with Sri Lanka, Pakistan, Bangladesh and Nepal during the last five years, year-wise and reasons for upward/ downward trend in each case; and

(b) what has been total foreign trade position during the last five years, year-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI ARANGIL SREEDHARAN): (a) Quantum of India's trade with Sri Lanka, Pakistan, Bangladesh and Nepal during the last 5 years, year-wise, is given below:-

EXPORT

Rs. crores

Country	1985-86	1986-87	1987-88	1988-89	1989-90 (upto 1/90)
Bangladesh	128.75	163.96	186.81	261.94	373.21
Nepal	101.71	102.83	93.68	97.28	74.33
Pakistan	14.64	15.46	20.12	36.43	36.49
Sri Lanka	80.62	86.84	101.63	146.92	75.22
	IMPORT				
Bangaladesh	15.86	23.08	14.79	14.53	12.54
Nepal	47.60	64.36	44.66	34.74	0.37
Pakistan	26.59	30.42	30.59	72.58	38.27
Sri Lanka	8.08	11.33	11.71	27.54	14.99

Indian exports to these countries have been, by and large, going up due to official and business level export promotion measures. The decline in trade with Nepal is related to the lapsing of the Treaty of Trade in March, 1989. The quantum of imports from these countries has been almost at the same level with slight variations which can be attributed to normal commercial factors like price and quality competitiveness.

(b) India's total foreign trade during the last five years, yearwise, is given below:

Rs. crores

	1985-86	1986-87	1987-88	1988-89	1989-90 (upto 1/90)
Exports	10894.59	12452.36	15741.23	20280.92	22047.20
Imports	19657.69	20200.65	22398.97	27692.87	28937.49

Source: DGCIS, Calcutta.

Import and Distribution of Photosensitive Material

1739. SHRI GHUFRAN AZAM: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Delhi Professional Photographers' Association has urged Government to end the practice of licensing for import and distribution of photosensitive material;

(b) whether it is a fact that at present only Hindustan Photofilm Manufacturing Company (HPF) enjoys total monopoly over the import and distribution of photosensitive materials resulting in high prices and poor quality of material;

(c) whether the HPF has increased the prices of black and white paper and films of various kinds from 1st April, 1990 despite there being no increase in the cif value or the import duty;

(d) if so, what is Government's reaction thereto and whether Government propose to delicense the import and distribution of photosensitive materials; and

(e) if the answer to part (d) above be in the negative, what are the reasons therefor and what further action Government propose to take against HPF which has increased the prices of such materials from 1st April, 1990?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI ARANGIL SREEDHARAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Besides HPF, M/s. New India Industries, Bombay are also licensed to manufacture photographic goods. Apart from these two units established for basic manufacture of photo sensitive goods, ten units in the private sector have also been granted licences/COB licences for slitting and confectioning of photosensitised goods from imported jumbo rolls. LOIs have also been issued to M/s. PICUP, and M/s. Garware for manufacture of various photosensitised goods.

(c) and (d) M/s. Hindustan Photo Films has increased the prices of its Black & White products w.e.f. 31.3.1990 due to increase in cost of major raw materials, packing materials, overheads, etc.

In view of indigenous availability special types of X-ray film viz. (1) Lo-Dose Mammographic films; (2) Massminiature film; (3) Special type of X-ray films used for changers; and (4) X-ray films for cat-scanners have been shifted from the Open General Licence to the Limited Permissible List in the Import and Export Policy for 1990-93 on the basis of recommendation by a Committee of Eminent Radiologists constituted under the chairmanship of the Deputy Director General of Health Services, Other types of photosensitive materials are allowed for import under Open General Licence.

(e) Does not arise.

1740 [*Transferred to the 28th May, 1990*]

Artificial Recharging of Ground Water in Gujarat

1741. SHRI VITHALBHAI M. PATEL: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether a pilot project on artificial recharge' has been undertaken in